

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by *Nakagawa et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,560,939).

Claims 1 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by *Asai* (U.S. Patent No. 5,593,710).

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claim 5 is allowed, and claims 7 and 8 include allowable subject matter.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicants have amended claims 1, 3, 7 and 8. Accordingly, claims 1, 3, 7 and 8 remain pending for further consideration, and claim 5 has been allowed.

The Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) based on *Nakagawa et al.*

Claims 1 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by *Nakagawa et al.* To the extent that these rejections might be reapplied to the claims as newly-amended, it is respectfully traversed as being based on a reference that neither teaches nor suggests the novel combination of features recited in the claims.

With respect to independent claim 1, as newly amended, Applicants respectfully submit that *Nakagawa et al.* does not teach or suggest the claimed combination including at least “first

heat suppressing member for suppressing heat within said conduction path from being transmitted to said first of said pair of mold bodies,” and that “the temperature of said conduction member is different from that of said mold bodies.”

The Office Action alleges that a flow-through path 53 of *Nakagawa et al.* meets the limitations of the first heat suppressing member, as claimed. Applicants respectfully disagree. Applicants respectfully submit that the flow-through path 53 of *Nakagawa et al.* is disposed between a sprue 58 and a mold 1 and the temperature therebetween is set at a required temperature by the warmly conditioned fluid flowing through the path 55. In other words, Applicants respectfully submit that the temperature of the mold 1 is the same as that of the sprue 58. On the contrast, in the claimed invention, the first heat suppressing member/means serves for “suppressing heat within said conduction path from being transmitted to said first of said pair of mold bodies,” as recited in claim 1. As a result, the temperature of the “conduction member,” as claimed is different from that of “said first of said pair of mold bodies,” as claimed. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that *Nakagawa et al.* fails to teach or suggest at least “first heat suppressing member for suppressing heat within said conduction path from being transmitted to said first of said pair of mold bodies,” and that “the temperature of said conduction member is different from that of said mold bodies,” as recited in newly-amended claim 1.

For similar reasons, with respect to independent claim 3, as newly amended, Applicants respectfully submit that *Nakagawa et al.* does not teach or suggest the claimed combination including at least “first heat suppressing means for suppressing heat within said conduction path

from being transmitted to said first of said pair of mold bodies,” and that “the temperature of said conduction means is different from that of said mold bodies.”

In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that while *Nakagawa et al.* discloses two cavities 3, the two cavities 3 are not the “disc-shaped mold space,” as recited in claims 1 and 3.

The Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) based on *Asai*

Claims 1 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by *Asai*. To the extent that these rejections might be reapplied to the claims as newly-amended, it is respectfully traversed as being based on a reference that neither teaches nor suggests the novel combination of features recited in the claims.

With respect to independent claim 1, as newly amended, Applicants respectfully submit that *Asai* does not teach or suggest the claimed combination including at least “first heat suppressing member for suppressing heat within said conduction path from being transmitted to said first of said pair of mold bodies,” and that “the temperature of said conduction member is different from that of said mold bodies.”

The Office Action alleges that a center bushing 72 of *Asai* would inherently act as the “first heat suppressing member,” as claimed. Applicants respectfully disagree. Applicants respectfully submit that as shown in Fig. 6 of *Asai*, a female cutter 25 is disposed between the center bushing 72 and a sprue bushing 22 and connected to a mirror plate 70, thereby the heat from the sprue bushing 22 being transmitted to the mirror plate 70 through the female cutter 25. In other words, the center bushing 72 cannot be used as the “first heat suppressing member for

suppressing heat within said conduction path from being transmitted to said first of said pair of mold bodies,” as recited in claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that *Asai* fails to teach or suggest at least “first heat suppressing member for suppressing heat within said conduction path from being transmitted to said first of said pair of mold bodies,” and that “the temperature of said conduction member is different from that of said mold bodies,” as recited in newly-amended claim 1.

For similar reasons, with respect to independent claim 3, Applicants respectfully submit that *Asai* does not teach or suggest the claimed combination including at least “first heat suppressing means for suppressing heat within said conduction path from being transmitted to said first of said pair of mold bodies,” and that “the temperature of said conduction means is different from that of said mold bodies.”

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) based on *Nakagawa et al.* and *Asai* should be withdrawn because neither *Nakagawa et al.* nor *Asai* teaches or suggests each and every feature of independent claims 1 and 3, as newly amended. As pointed out in MPEP § 2131, “[t]o anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim.” Thus, “[a] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. Of California, 2 USPQ 2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).”

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claim 5 is allowed and claims 7 and 8 include allowable subject matter. Since Applicants have rewritten claims 7 and 8 in independent form

including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, Applicants respectfully submit that the objections to claim 7 and 8 should be withdrawn.

With no other rejection pending, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 3, 5, 7 and 8 are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

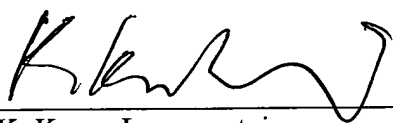
In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner believe that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

Please charge the amount of \$446 representing \$168.00 for two (2) additional independent claim fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully Submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

By: 
K. Karen Loewenstein
Reg. No. 41,161

Dated: July 31, 2003

Customer No.: 009629
MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
Telephone: (202) 739-3000
Facsimile: (202) 739-3001